



Office of Vermont Health Access
Agency of Human Services

Vermont Pharmacy Programs Alert

Vermont Medicaid and Medicare Part C

As of January 1, 2007, Medicare members in Vermont will have the option of joining a Medicare Part C plan. Medicare Part C consists of several Medicare Advantage Plan choices that are Medicare-approved and administered by private insurance companies.

- The Medicare Advantage Plans will replace Part A and Part B for members who choose to join. **Some Medicare Advantage Plans also include drug coverage (Part D).**
- **For those plans that do not include drug coverage, the member will need to have a separate Part D Plan in order to receive a pharmacy benefit.**
- For all Medicare Advantage Plans that include drug coverage, contact information and billing information (BIN/PCN) are attached. Questions regarding Medicare Part C coverage and prior authorizations should be directed to the member's Part C plan.
 - Members enrolled in a Part C plan and Medicaid or VPharm can call Vermont Health Access Member Services at **800-250-8427** with questions about their state pharmacy coverage.
 - If you or the member needs assistance with the Part C prior authorization, exception requests, or appeals process, please contact the Office of Health Care Ombudsman at **800-917-7787**.
- Part B drugs will be covered by the Part C Plan, even if the plan does not include a pharmacy benefit.
- Open enrollment for the Medicare Advantage Plans is January 1, 2007 through March 31, 2007.
- Additional information about available plans, coverage and costs can be found at www.medicare.gov and www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicare.asp.